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OLC 71-0772

29 July 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with Bill Woodruff, Counsel,
Senate Appropriations Committee

1. I met with Bill Woodruff today and we discussed a number of topics of mutual interest. The principal reason of my visit was to give him a copy of the spread sheet we had prepared commenting on the four bills recently introduced by Senator Case which have a possible impact on the Agency (S. 2251 - S. 2254).

2. I told Woodruff I had talked with Ed Braswell, Chief Counsel, Senate Armed Services Committee, about the question of Armed Services Committee jurisdiction over that part of S. 2254 which would amend the Military Procurement Act and of Braswell's response to the effect that making an issue over this was somewhat of a useless exercise since many similar amendments are expected to be made to the Foreign Assistance Act in the Foreign Relations Committee and on the Senate floor. Woodruff commented only that he thought the Armed Services Committee should assert its jurisdiction over any bill which would amend the National Security Act. I told him the only bill of this nature that I was aware of was S. 2224, Senator Cooper's bill regarding the transmittal of intelligence information to Congress. This bill was referred jointly to the Foreign Relations and Armed Services Committees. S. 2290, Senator Humphrey's bill to establish a Joint Committee on National Security does not amend the National Security Act, but was referred to the Armed Services Committee. Woodruff added he fully expects the Foreign Relations Committee to report out legislation which will impinge on the Agency's authority.

3. Woodruff mentioned he has received a number of inquiries lately about the role of the Appropriations Committee with respect to CIA. He said his response to such inquiries is to state that the Director of Central Intelligence gives detailed briefings to the Defense Subcommittee of the

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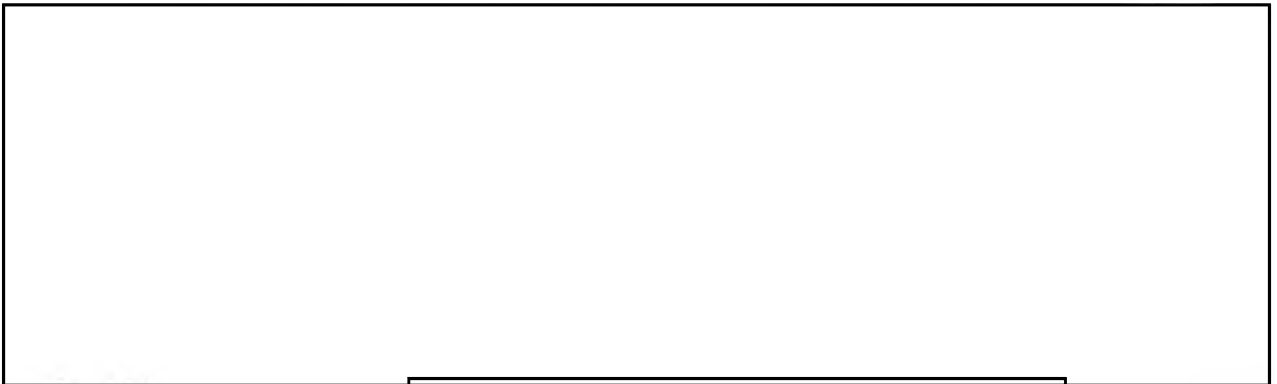
Appropriations Committee on developments throughout the world which are extremely helpful to that Subcommittee in carrying out its responsibilities. In addition, the Committee has the responsibility for the review of the CIA budget and this is done thoroughly and painstakingly.

4. We talked about the status of the two sensitive readout systems. I told Woodruff it was my understanding that Carl Duckett has prepared a paper on this which he has asked DOD to concur on, but DOD has said it would prepare a separate paper. As far as a response to Senator Ellender's letters to the Agency and Defense on this subject, Woodruff said the Chairman expects a response; but if he does not receive such a response in due course, the Committee will make its own decision in favor of the Agency's program. Woodruff strongly recommends that a response be sent, however.

5. Mr. Woodruff commented that he does not expect the Defense appropriation bill to be acted on until Thanksgiving time in view of the delays which the Congress is experiencing on other topics; such as the extension of the draft, financial assistance to Lockheed, etc. He mentioned that the Committee does not intend to get involved in a "ridiculous exercise" on the "Fulbright amendment" issue again this year. He said the Defense appropriation bill will not get into this issue. The subject will be covered in the Committee report by taking cognizance of the validity of whatever provision is contained in the Defense authorization bill.

6. I also briefed Woodruff on the following current intelligence items:

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